



August 15, 2009

Philadelphia, Pa--Congressman Joe Sestak (PA-07) addressed the crowd at the Festival of India, a celebration hosted by the Council of Indian Organizations (CIO) of Greater Philadelphia at Penn's Landing.

The annual festival featured Indian dance, music, and cuisine, and was a part of the PECO Energy Multicultural Series.

"I appreciate the invitation from the Council of Indian Organizations (CIO) to attend again this year," Congressman Sestak said. "CIO's efforts to share Indian culture and heritage with the public are an invaluable part of cultural exchange, which is important for everyone to be a part of."

CIO, Council of Indian Organizations in Greater Philadelphia, is a non-profit, non-political, non-sectarian organization formed primarily for cultural and educational purposes. Since it was founded in 1983, the CIO has acted as a centralized body to represent the Asian Indian Community and to promote the cultural heritage and community causes of its respective groups.

*Born and raised in Delaware County, former 3-star Admiral Joe Sestak served in the Navy for 31 years and now serves as the Representative from the 7th District of Pennsylvania. He led a series of operational commands at sea, including Commander of an aircraft carrier battle group of 30 U.S. and allied ships with over 15,000 sailors and 100 aircraft that conducted operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. After 9/11, Joe was the first Director of "Deep Blue," the Navy's anti-terrorism unit that established strategic and operations policies for the "Global War on Terrorism." He served as President Clinton's Director for Defense Policy at the National Security Council in the White House, and holds a Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government from Harvard University. According to the office of the House Historian, Joe is the highest-ranking former military officer ever elected to the U.S. Congress.*